

FEBRUARY 25.

Mr. JOHN H. REDFIELD in the chair.

Fourteen persons present.

The death of Dr. Charles C. Parry, a Correspondent, was announced.

The following was received :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE HAYDEN MEMORIAL
GEOLOGICAL AWARD.

The committee appointed by the Academy of Natural Sciences to recommend the award of the Hayden memorial medal for the most important contribution to the science of geology, has the honor to report to the Academy that it has selected Prof. James Hall, the State Geologist of New York, for the distinction of receiving the first award of this medal. In making the selection the committee feels confident that it will have the endorsement of every geologist both here and abroad, but it deems it due to the eminent character of the recipient, and of the work which he has done for fifty-eight years and is still doing for science, that these services should be here formally acknowledged.

Prof. Hall was born at Hingham, Mass., on Sept 12th, 1811, and is therefore now in his 79th year. He commenced his scientific life in 1832 when, after graduation at the Van Rensselaer Polytechnic school he immediately assumed the duties of a Professor there. His dedication to the special branch of research to which he has made so many and important contributions, began in 1836 when he was appointed Professor of geology at that institution, and the same year one of the Assistant Geologists on the then just instituted geological survey of New York. In 1837 he was made State Geologist in charge of the fourth division of the State. His final report of this district was made in 1843, and thence with the title of State Geologist he was placed in charge of the paleontological work. From this date till 1879 five volumes of the paleontology of the terrains from the Potsdam sandstone to the base of the coal measures have been issued. He has prepared a complete revision of the paleozoic brachiopoda of North America which is now in press and which has necessarily required researches as far west as the Rocky Mountains.

He was also State Geologist of Iowa in 1855. In 1857 he was elected State Geologist of Wisconsin. He has besides prepared mon-

ographs of the Graptolites of the Quebec group (1865); two volumes of the geology and paleontology of Iowa (1858-9); the chapters on geography, geology and paleontology, of Wisconsin in 1862; Fremont's exploring expedition Appendix A. (1845); Expedition to the Great Salt Lake (1852); United States and Mexican Boundary Survey (1857); United States Geological Exploration of the Fortieth Parallel, Vol. IV. He has published volumes of reports of progress ever since 1866, when on the reorganization of the New York State Museum he was appointed director as well as State Geologist. Notable among these are Vol. VI, on the Corals and Bryozoa from the Lower and Upper Helderberg and Hamilton; Vol. VII, containing descriptions of the trilobites and other crustacea of the Oriskany, Upper Helderberg, Hamilton, Portage, Chemung and Catskill—in fact eleven volumes altogether. He received the grand cross of the order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus from the King of Italy in 1882, and the Walker quinquennial grand prize of \$1000 from the Boston Society of Natural History in 1884.

He is the only surviving founder of the American Association of Geologists which was organized in Philadelphia in 1840, and out of which grew the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was one of the charter members of the National Academy of Science, and one of the original founders of the International Congress of Geologists, at all sessions of the latter of which he has attended having been elected Vice-President representing the United States.

He was elected a Correspondent of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia in 1843, one of the foreign members of the Geological Society of London in 1848, and received its Wollaston medal in 1858. He was elected Correspondent of the Academy of Sciences of Paris in 1884. He was the first President elected by the Geological Society of America on its organization in 1889.

Probably no one living has influenced to a greater extent the domain of invertebrate palaeontology, and much of the exactitude of knowledge which his researches have introduced into the New York reports have made these the standard of geological nomenclature and classification throughout America.

JOSEPH LEIDY.

J. P. LESLEY.

ANGELO HEILPRIN.

PERSIFOR FRAZER.

WILLIAM B. SCOTT.

The following were elected members :—

Mahlon Walker M. D., William H. Bricker M. D., Samuel G. Dixon M. D., David Jayne Bullock, Stephen Farrelly and Baird Halberstadt.

The following were ordered to be printed :—